

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 08821 271434Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01

TRSE-00 ACDA-07 IO-13 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /101 W

-----096827 271449Z /53

O 271405Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1061

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 08821

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XA, XO, XF, SO, ET, BE

SUBJECT: SOMALI ENVOY REQUESTS MILITARY ASSISTANCE

REF: A) BRUSSELS 5442, B) BRUSSELS 4290

1. SUMMARY: SOMALI AMBASSADOR ASKS U.S. AND OTHER WESTERN NATIONS FOR PROMPT DELIVERY OF MILITARY SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT IN THE FACE OF ETHIOPIAN THREAT. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING AMBASSADOR'S INITIAL COURTESY CALL, JULY 25, SOMALI AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM AND EC MOHAMMED OMAR GIAMA
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 08821 271434Z

SAID HE WAS INSTRUCTED BY HIS GOVERNMENT TO STRESS URGENCY OF SOMALI APPEAL TO U.S. AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES FOR MILITARY SUPPLIES AND QUIPMENT. CITING CURRENT THREAT OF ETHIOPIA TO SOMALI SECURITY, HE WARNED THAT SOMALIA MIGHT FIND ITSELF IN A "DESPERATE SITUATION" IF ASSISTANCE WERE NOT FORTHCOMING. HE SAID THAT SAUDI ARABIANS WERE PROVIDING EXTENSIVE FINANCIAL

SUPPORT TO HIS COUNTRY AND THAT THIS SUPPORT WAS AVAILABLE TO HELP PAY FOR NEEDED SUPPLIES AND MATERIEL. THE AMBASSADOR TOLD GIAMA THAT SHE WOULD FULLY REPORT HIS REQUEST.

3. GIAMA CHARACTERIZED SOMALI POLICY AS THE SEARCH FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE. HE SUMMARIZED THE HISTORICAL PROCESS OF THE 1960S AND 1970S, CONCLUDING WITH THE OBSERVATION THAT SOMALIA'S INDEPENDENCE HAD BEEN INHIBITED BY A TOO-CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION. HE STRESSED THAT SOMALIS WERE MOSLEMS WITH CLOSE TIES WITH THE ARAB COMMUNITY AND THAT THEREFORE THEY COULD NEITHER BECOME COMMUNISTS NOR ACCEPT SOVIET DOMINATION OF THEIR COUNTRY. HE SAID THAT SOMALIA WOULD NOT ABRUPTLY "THROW OUT" THE SOVIETS NOW BUT WOULD BE REDUCING THEIR INFLUENCE AND PRESENCE IN AN ORDERLY FASHION. HE CITED "REPORTS" OF THE DEPARTURE OF SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF SOVIET MILITARY ADVISORS AND TECHNICIANS FROM SOMALIA.

4. GIAMA TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT IT WAS A MISTAKE FOR THE WEST TO STAND OFF AND TAKE NO PART IN THE ERITREAN FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE FROM ETHIOPIA. HE ASSERTED THAT WESTERN INTERESTS AND PEACE IN AFRICA WOULD BOTH BE BEST SERVED BY OUR SUPPORT OF THE ERITREANS. HE SAID IT WAS A "FALSE HOPE" FOR THE WEST TO SIT BACK
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BRUSSE 08821 271434Z

AND EXPECT THE PRESENT LEFTIST REGIME IN ETHIOPIA TO CHANGE, WARNING THAT THE SOVIETS, WHO WERE WELL ENTRENCHED IN ETHIOPIA, WOULD NOT EASILY BE DISLOGED.
CHAMBERS

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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